



## WEEKEND UPDATE

### A MAJOR INCIDENT REPORT FROM LOS ANGELES COUNTY FIRE CHIEF P. MICHAEL FREEMAN

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January 19, 2010

This report covers major incidents occurring in Los Angeles County during the period beginning on Friday, January 15, 2010, at 5:00 p.m., until Tuesday, January 19, 2010, at 8:00 a.m.

#### **FOOTHILL INCIDENT MANAGEMENT TEAM: MUD & DEBRIS FLOW**

On Monday, January 18, 2010, at 8 a.m., the Foothill Incident Management Team was activated to monitor the La Canada Flintridge area and the impact of the predicted storms on at risk areas from the Station Fire. This incident is being managed in unified command with L.A. County Fire, L.A. County Sheriff's Department, and L.A. County Department of Public Works. Cooperating agencies include U.S. Forest Service, CalTrans, California Highway Patrol, and the American Red Cross.

During the peak storm impact, approximately three inches of rain fell throughout the area and 64 homes required mandatory evacuations due to their proximity to the local debris basin which was near full capacity. These homes were located north of 5224 Ocean View Blvd. in the La Canada Flintridge area. The L.A. County Sheriff's Department assisted with the evacuation notifications at approximately 1:20 p.m., and an evacuation center was established at La Canada High School.

Firefighters monitored the debris basin, and Specialized County Fire resources were activated and readied for any necessary emergency operations. Road closures in the area included Angeles Crest Highway, Angeles Forest Highway, Big Tujunga Canyon Road, and Upper Big Tujunga Canyon Road. Information is being distributed in unified fashion through the Coordinated Agency Recovery Effort (C.A.R.E.) and field information officers from County Fire, Sheriff's, and Public Works. All evacuations were lifted at 5:30 p.m. yesterday.

Current weather forecasts predict more storms and rain during the next seven to 10 days with the heaviest anticipated storms occurring on Wednesday, January 20, 2010. Firefighters are continuing to monitor the debris basin levels in the area and future evacuations may be required due to predicted storm warnings. All road closures will remain in place until further notice. Currently the identified focus area is relatively small; however it may be expanded with future rainfall forecasts. The Foothill Incident Management Team will continue operations until current storm warnings have passed.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT THE EXECUTIVE OFFICE AT (323) 881-2401